

## Claims

1. A biomass gasification system in which thermal energy from a thermal source is applied to a gasification furnace as means of generating fuel gas therein, and in which a slag feed system is incorporated as means of supplying slag generated in said gasification furnace to said thermal source for use as a heat-generating fuel therein comprising:

a slag holding part being installed to said slag feed system and accumulating the slag.

2. A biomass gasification system according to claim 1, wherein the slag which has accumulated in said holding part forms a seal between the internal environments of said gasification furnace and said thermal source.

3. A biomass gasification system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a detective means is provided in order to monitor an amount of slag in said holding part.

4. A biomass gasification system according to claim 3, wherein said detective means is structured as at least a pair of electrodes which come into contact with the slag to form an electrically conductive circuit.

5. A biomass gasification system according to claim 3 or 4, wherein transport means is installed between said holding part and said thermal source in order to transport slag from said holding part to said thermal source when the amount of slag, as monitored by said detective means, exceeds the amount required to form a seal between the internal environments of said gasification furnace and said thermal source.

6. A biomass gasification system operating method applied to a biomass gasification system in which thermal energy from a thermal source is applied to a gasification furnace as means of generating fuel gas therein, and in which a slag feed system is incorporated as means of supplying slag generated in said gasification furnace to said thermal source for use as a heat-generating fuel therein, comprising:

a step that the slag accumulating in a holding part installed to said slag feed system forms a seal between the internal environments of said gasification furnace and said thermal source.

7. A biomass gasification system operating method according to claim 6, wherein the slag is transported from said holding part to said thermal source when the amount of slag in said holding part exceeds that required to maintain a seal between the internal environments of said gasification furnace and said thermal source.